

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 168
By McDaniel

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Billy Belew of
Lexington on being inducted into the TSSAA Hall
of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those individuals who, through their knowledge of and commitment to athletics in Tennessee, have advanced the spirit of cooperation and fair play that defines Tennessee high school sports; and

WHEREAS, Billy Belew is one such remarkable individual, having recently been inducted into the TSSAA Hall of Fame as an official; and

WHEREAS, a native and lifelong resident of Lexington, Billy Belew attended Union University after graduating from Lexington High School; Billy Belew played three years of baseball as an undergraduate; and

WHEREAS, both studious and athletic, Billy Belew went on to earn a Master's Degree plus 45 hours from Memphis State University and a DDS from the University of Tennessee in 1960; and

WHEREAS, an exemplary patriot who helped secure the way for democracy across the globe, Billy Belew served our country in the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, Billy Belew has devoted his life to education, having served 31 years as a teacher, coach, and school superintendent; and

WHEREAS, perhaps most widely known for his officiating, Billy Belew first blew the whistle in 1947 as a high school junior; and

WHEREAS, Billy Belew has officiated many high school football playoff and bowl games, and four state championship games, including three Clinic Bowls; he has also officiated basketball and baseball games throughout his illustrious career; and

WHEREAS, setting a meritorious example for others to follow, Billy Belew is proud of the fact that many current and former officials for TSSAA were recruited by him personally; and

WHEREAS, exemplifying his love for athletics, Bill Belew is currently working as football supervisor for the Southwest Officials' Association; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Billy Belew is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, the former Carolyn Sheppard; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Billy Belew has been known as a man of integrity, seeking only to promote sportsmanship and teamwork in athletics; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should honor Mr. Belew for his legion of accomplishments in Tennessee high school athletics; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate Billy Belew on being inducted into the TSSAA Hall of Fame as an official, applaud his work ethic and integrity, and wish him nothing but the best in his every future endeavor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared with this final clause omitted from such copy.